AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for default encryption of audio/video content for distribution, comprising:

a conditional access encryption system;

a conditional access management system that communicates with and manages the conditional access encryption system; and

a memory storing default encryption information for use by the conditional access encryption system to encrypt certain audio/video content upon a communication failure between the conditional access encryption system and the conditional access management system.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a control computer that initializes the configuration memory with the default encryption information.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the content is encrypted with the default encryption information if a communication failure occurs between the conditional access management system and the conditional access encryption system.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the content is encrypted with the default encryption information if communication cannot be established between the conditional

Application No.: 10/795,929

access management system and the conditional access <u>encryption</u> system.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the conditional access system provides selective encryption of the content.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for default encryption <u>of audio/video content</u>, comprising:

a conditional access system;

means for ~~distributing~~ <u>encrypting</u> content in the conditional access system;

means for managing the conditional access system;

means for communicating between the managing means and the ~~distributing~~ <u>encrypting</u> means;

means for storing default encryption information for the conditional access system for use by the conditional access system to encrypt certain <u>audio/video</u> content upon a communication failure between the conditional access system and the <u>managing means</u> ~~conditional access management system~~; and

means for configuring the storing means with the default encryption information.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the storing means comprises a non-volatile memory.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the content is encrypted with the default encryption information if a communication failure occurs between the management means and the <u>encrypting</u> ~~distributing~~ means.

Application No.: 10/795,929

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the content is encrypted with the default encryption information if communication cannot be established between the management means and the <u>encrypting</u> ~~distributing~~ means.

15. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the conditional access system provides selective encryption of the content.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of default encryption of <u>audio/video</u> content for distribution, comprising:

        initializing a default configuration memory with default encryption information;

        communicating with a conditional access management system to retrieve active encryption information for a conditional access system;

        encrypting content for distribution with the active encryption information;

        distributing the content encrypted with active encryption information;

        if a communication failure occurs between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

                reading the default encryption information from the default configuration memory;

                encrypting the <u>audio/video</u> content with the default encryption information; and

                distributing the <u>audio/video</u> content encrypted with the default encryption information.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

        if communication is restored between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

                communicating with the conditional access management system to retrieve active encryption information for the conditional access system;

                encrypting the <u>audio/video</u> content for distribution with the active encryption

information; and

distributing the audio/video content encrypted with active encryption information.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the default configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

21. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the encryption comprises selective encryption.

22. (Original) A computer readable medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out the process according to claim 16.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of default encryption of audio/video content for distribution, comprising:

initializing a default configuration memory with default encryption information;

attempting to communicate with a conditional access management system to retrieve active encryption information for a conditional access system;

if communication cannot be established between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

reading the default encryption information from the default configuration memory;

encrypting the audio/video content with the default encryption information; and

distributing the audio/video content encrypted with the default encryption information.

Application No.: 10/795,929

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

if communication is achieved between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

receiving active encryption information for the audio/video content for distribution in the conditional access system;

encrypting the content with the active encryption information; and

distributing the content encrypted with active encryption information.

25. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

27. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the default configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

28. (Original) A computer readable medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out the process according to claim 23.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of default encryption of audio/video content for distribution, comprising:

initializing a default configuration memory with default encryption information;

communicating with a conditional access management system to retrieve active encryption information for the content for distribution in a conditional access system;

encrypting the audio/video content with the active encryption information;

distributing the audio/video content encrypted with active encryption information;

signaling all set-top boxes within the conditional access system instructing them to use

the active encryption information;

if a communication failure occurs between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

reading the default encryption information from the default configuration memory;

encrypting the audio/video content with the default encryption information;

signaling all set-top boxes within the conditional access system instructing them to use the default encryption information; and

distributing the audio/video content encrypted with the default encryption information.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

if communication is restored between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

receiving active encryption information for the audio/video content for distribution in the conditional access system;

encrypting the audio/video content with the active encryption information;

signaling all set-top boxes within the conditional access system instructing them to use the active encryption information; and

distributing the audio/video content encrypted with active encryption information.

31. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

33. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the default configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

Application No.: 10/795,929

-13-

34. (Original) A computer readable medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out the process according to claim 29.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of default encryption of <u>audio/video</u> content for distribution, comprising:

        initializing a default configuration memory with default encryption information;

        attempting to communicate with a conditional access management system to retrieve active encryption information for the content for distribution in a conditional access system;

        if communication cannot be established between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

                reading the default encryption information from the default configuration memory;

                encrypting the <u>audio/video</u> content with the default encryption information;

                signaling all set-top boxes within the conditional access system instructing them to use the default encryption information; and

                distributing the <u>audio/video</u> content encrypted with the default encryption information.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising:

        if communication is achieved between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

                receiving active encryption information for the <u>audio/video</u> content for distribution in the conditional access system;

                encrypting the <u>audio/video</u> content with the active encryption information;

                signaling all set-top boxes within the conditional access system instructing them to use the active encryption information; and

                distributing the <u>audio/video</u> content encrypted with active encryption information.

37. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

39. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the default configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

40. (Original) A computer readable medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out the process according to claim 35.

41. (Currently Amended)   An apparatus for default decryption of audio/video content, comprising:

      a receiver conditional access system that provides decryption functions; and

      an even decryption engine;

      an odd decryption engine;

      a memory storing odd and even decryption keys for use by the an odd and even decrypters;

      a configuration said memory also storing a default decryption information for the content key for use to decrypt the audio/video content when the conditional access system receives signaling instructing it to use the default decryption key instead of the odd and even decryption keys information; and

      wherein, such signaling instruction is received when a communication failure at an audio/video content provider would otherwise permit content to be provided without benefit of encryption for decryption using the odd or even decryption keys.

42. (Original) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the default decryption information comprises default decryption keys.

43. (Original) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the default decryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

44. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein, when signaled to initialize the default decryption key ~~configuration memory~~, the conditional access system initializes the ~~configuration~~ memory with default encryption information received with the signaling.

45. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the ~~configuration~~ memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

46. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the content is decrypted with the default decryption key ~~information~~ upon reception of signaling instructing the conditional access system to use the default decryption key ~~information~~.

47. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for default decryption of audio/video content, comprising:

     means for receiving audio/video content in a conditional access system that provides decryption functions; ~~and~~

     an even decryption engine;

     an odd decryption engine;

     a memory storing odd and even decryption keys for use by the an odd and even decrypters;

     means for receiving signaling in the conditional access system;

     means for storing default decryption information for audio/video content received in the conditional access system for use to decrypt the audio/video content when the conditional access system receives signaling instructing it to use the default decryption information instead of the odd and even decryption keys, wherein such signaling instruction is received when a communication failure at an audio/video content provider would otherwise permit content to be

provided without benefit of encryption for decryption using the odd or even decryption keys; and

means for configuring the storing means with the default decryption information.

48. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the default decryption information comprises default decryption keys.

49. (Original) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the default decryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

50. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the storing means comprises a non-volatile memory.

51. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the audio/video content is decrypted with the default decryption information upon reception of signaling instructing the conditional access system to use the default decryption information.

52. (Currently Amended) A method of default decryption of audio/video content, comprising:

receiving audio/video content in a conditional access system that provides decryption functions, said audio/video content normally being decrypted using an even decryption engine and an odd decryption engine operating by use of odd and even decryption keys;

receiving signaling instructing storage of default decryption information for audio/video content in a conditional access system;

receiving default decryption information for use to decrypt the audio/video content when the conditional access system receives signaling instructing it to use the default decryption information;

initializing a default configuration memory with the default decryption information;

receiving active decryption information with audio/video content in the conditional access system;

decrypting selected channels with the odd and even decryption engines using the odd and

even decryption keys ~~active decryption information~~;

      if signaling reception instructs use of the default decryption information for the conditional access system:

            reading the default decryption information for the <u>audio/video</u> content from the default configuration memory; and

            decrypting <u>audio/video</u> content with the default decryption information<u>; and</u>

      <u>wherein, such signaling reception instructs use of the default decryption information when a communication failure at an audio/video content provider would otherwise permit content to be provided without benefit of encryption for decryption using the odd or even decryption keys.</u>

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 52, further comprising:

      if signaling reception instructs use of active decryption information:

            receiving active decryption information with the <u>audio/video</u> content in the conditional access system;

            decrypting <u>audio/video</u> content with the active decryption information.

54. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the default decryption information comprises default decryption keys.

55. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein the default decryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

56. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the default configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

57. (Original) A computer readable medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out the process according to claim 52.

Application No.: 10/795,929